

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 00025, which begins on page 11, line 9, and ends on page 11, line 22, by the following amended paragraph.

5 The invention is particularly useful for cosmetic (including hair care) compositions, ~~i.e. compositions which, as defined in the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, are intended to be "rubbed, poured, sprinkled, sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body... for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance"~~. Such

10 compositions can for example be in the form of varnishes, gels, sticks, oil-in-water creams, water-in-oil creams, and thickened oil products with or without water. Specific examples of such compositions include, but are not limited to lipsticks, deodorant sticks, nail varnishes, pretanning lotions, sunscreen lotions, sun tan lotions, after-sun lotions, sun creams, protective hand creams, night

15 renewal creams, body milks and lotions, light facial creams, protective day creams, liquid moisturizing emulsions, hairdressing preparations (including hair-treating oils, shampoos, after-shampoo compositions, products for rinsing to be applied before or after shampooing, before or after dyeing or bleaching, before or after permanent-waving or hair straightening, as a hair-setting or blow-drying

20 composition, as a restructuring composition, or as a support for permanent-waving or for dyeing or bleaching hair), foam baths, bath oils, skin cleansers, skin foundations, mascaras, eye makeups, and makeup removers designed to assist in removing other cosmetic compositions. The cosmetic compositions can contain conventional additives for cosmetic compositions, including but not

25 limited to fragrances, sun screen agents, colorants, pigments, silicones, deodorants and antiseptic agents. The invention is also useful in other contexts, for example in paints, film-forming compositions, inks, and compositions carrying active ingredients such as UV absorbers, fragrances, biocides, antimicrobial agents, germicides, antioxidants, preservatives, disinfectants, enzymes,

30 nutrients, minerals, and drugs (including pharmaceuticals which are active physiologically or pharmacologically, either topically or systemically).

Compositions containing a thickener containing an ammonium salt are likely to be useful in certain types of hair care compositions.